

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for saving and recalling bill of material information using a network-based system including a server and at least one device connected to the server via a network, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving bill of material information from a user via the device;

5 comparing the received bill of material information with pre-stored bill of material information;

selecting at least one bill of material that matches the received information; and

10 displaying the pre-stored information related to the received bill of material information.

2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving an identification for the bill of material.

15 3. A method according to Claim 2 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving at least one of an identifying number, a name, and a date.

20 4. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving at least one of a customer number, a creator name, a creation date, a reviser name, a revision date, a revision number, a project name, a bid date, a bid type, a purchase order number, and a customer purchase order number.

5. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving a customer number.

25 6. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving a creator name.

7. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving a creation date.

5 8. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving a reviser name.

9. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving a revision date.

10 10. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving a revision number.

11. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving a project name.

12. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving a bid date.

13. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving a purchase order number.

14. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said step of receiving bill of material information from a user further comprises the step of receiving a customer purchase order number.

15 15. A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of allowing the user to submit the pre-stored information as an order.

16. A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of allowing the user to modify the pre-stored information.

17. A method according to Claim 16 further comprising the step of allowing the user to submit the modified pre-stored information as an order.

18. A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of displaying information related to the bill of material comprises the step of displaying a catalog number and a list price for a product.

19. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the bill of material information is received from the user via a graphical user interface.

20. A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of validating configuration compatibility based on the received product specification information to determine whether a resulting product having the received product specifications is capable of meeting parameters of the product.

21. A method according to Claim 23 further comprising the step of guiding the user, if the resulting product does not meet the parameters of the product, to a correct product configuration.

22. A method according to Claim 20 further comprising the step of guiding the user to a compatible product.

23. A system for saving and recalling bill of material information, said system comprising:

a device; and

a server connected to said device and configured to receive bill of material information from a user via said device, said server further configured to:

compare the received bill of material information with pre-stored bill of material information;

select at least one bill of material from the pre-stored bill of material information based on identification criteria entered by the user; and

display information related to a product listed the bill of material selected based on the identification criteria.

24. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server is further configured to download to the user the information related to the bill of material.

25. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server is further configured to receive at least one of a customer number, a creator name, a creation

date, a reviser name, a revision date, a revision number, a project name, a bid date, a bid type, a purchase order number, and a customer purchase order number.

26. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server is further configured to display the accessories selected for a product.

5 27. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server is further configured to receive an identification for a product.

28. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server is further configured to display the features selected for the product.

10 29. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server is further configured to display the accessories selected for the product.

30. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server is further configured to display a catalog number and a list price for the product.

31. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server is further configured to generate a quotation for the product.

15 32. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server is further configured to receive the bill of material information from the user via a graphical user interface.

20 33. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server is further configured to accept a purchase order for the product after the purchase order has been authenticated against pre-determined criteria.

34. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said device is configured to be a server for a network of customer devices.

35. A system according to Claim 23 wherein said server and said device are connected via a network.

25 36. A system according to claim 35 wherein said network is one of a wide area network, a local area network and the Internet.